JMU
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Department of Communication

November 30, 1988

Dear Mr. Weisberg,

You are probably wondering if I have fallen off of the face of the earth. Sorry for not having written in such a long time. I just finished work on a book that is to be published next summer. It is a communication text; I had to put my Warren Commission-FBI writings on the shelf since this is better for my credentials for tenure. Oh well, reality is always taking the fun out of things.

I couldn't help but think of you over the past week with the 25th anniversary and all. I must admit that most of the television shows about the assassination controversy were pretty bad—with one exception, the one on the A&E network in which you were featured. I taped it and the next time someone tells me I am a conspiracy nut I am going to make them watch that show. If that doesn't convince them that something is rotten, then that person will never be convinced. You looked well and made many an excellent point.

The one show that really enraged me was the CBS program with Dan Rather in which Rather closed the program by saying "Well the current consensus is that Oswald, a bitter man, acted alone." Consensus according to who? Dan Rather and Dan Rather? CBS certainly has blindly stuck to the *Warren Report* through thick and thin. I didn't get to see the show on PBS with Walter Cronkite. I heard that the autopsy photos that Lifton so tastelessly put in the current edition of his book were shown. I have seen them, and there is no way in hell the back wound where it is pictured could have come out of Kennedy's throat. It's funny, but in about all of the shows I saw, they kept referring to the *Warren Report* as the official report on the assassination; the HSCA *Report* has kind of faded into the woodwork. . . . Did you notice that too??? I also had forgotten how articulate Oswald was for a man with his "poor education."

I guess the thing that bothers me most is that the current consensus of people is "I really don't care who killed Kennedy, that's all old history." When will they understand that our government was overthrown that awful day in Dallas? Kennedy may not have been the best president, but he sure wouldn't have let the Vietnam War unfold as Johnson did. I really believe he would have pulled the troops out in '64. As he said in one of his last interviews with Walter Cronkite of Vietnam "It's their war to win or lose." I always wonder if good ole Bell Helicopter of Fort Worth lined LBJ's pockets to keep the war effort going in the mid-60s, it wouldn't suprise me.

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School has been going along all right. I have applied for some other jobs as I feel I need a change of scenery. The one job that I really want is in Charleston, South Carolina at the College of Charleston. I have heard a lot of great things about Charleston, and I miss the water. I have managed to keep up my running. I ran in and completed theU.S. Marine Corps Marathon again (see enclosed picture). I hope to have tenure someday so I can lighten my teaching load and really do a book about the relationship between the Warren Commission and the FBI, though I guess this would have been the year to have it out on the market. I have enclosed an article about assassination researcher Paul Hoch that my folks sent me—it appeared in the *Boston Globe* Magazine, I thought you might find it interesting.

I hope you and your wife are both in good health. I will never forget all the valuable assistance you provided me on my dissertation. I really don't think I could have done it without your help. And I still am thankful for how nice you and your wife have been to me when I have visited you—right down to making me lunch. I was lucky that professor Wrone told me about you (oh yes, I finally got to see what he looked like on the A&E piece you and he advised). Take care Mr. Weisberg, and all the best wishes to you and your wife.

Sincerely,

Bruce McKinney

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